

**MARVEL**

507

WAID  
PORTER  
RAPMUND

# FANTASTIC FOUR



**AUTHORITATIVE  
ACTION PART 5**

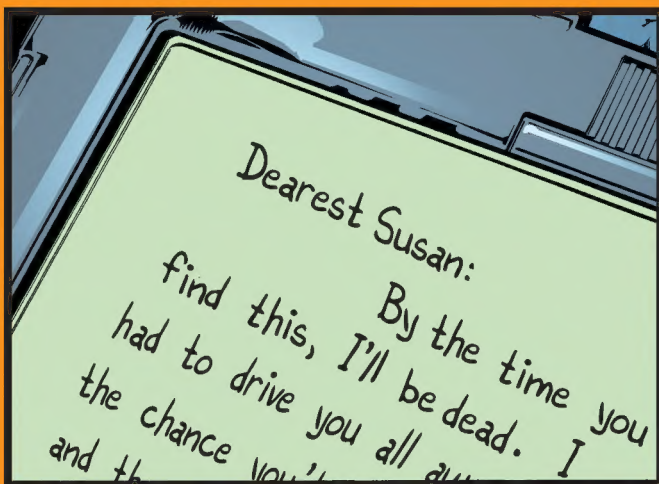
# THE FANTASTIC FOUR

**1** A team—and a family—of adventurers, explorers and imagonauts, the Fantastic Four lead lives both ordinary—and extraordinary. As of today:

**2** Reed Richards, demonstrating increasingly erratic behavior after having been scarred in battle by Victor Von Doom, has laid claim to Doom's European homeland of Latveria—this, despite the warnings of the United Nations, which has since amassed massive armies on Latveria's borders with which to oust Reed from power.

**3** Sue, Johnny and Ben desperately plead with Nick Fury, head of the pending military strike, to allow them a chance to bring Reed to his senses. Fury counters that their time is up—and, worse, that if they do not surrender immediately, they will be tried and convicted of treason against the United States of America.

**4** Meanwhile, unknown to his family, Reed plans a decisive action of his own:



STAN LEE PRESENTS

## "AUTHORITATIVE ACTION"

Part  
5 of 6



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the ultimate authority





Ben?

Y'know the difference between you 'n' Einstein, pal?

Even Einstein remembered t'eat every once in a while.

Brought this back for ya. As you were.



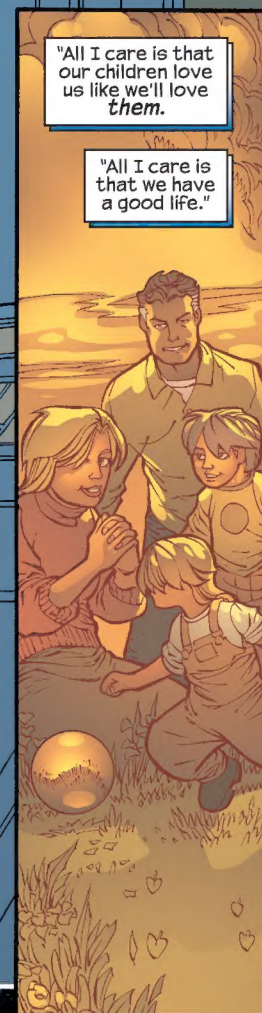
Hey, I think I found your "ping."

What?



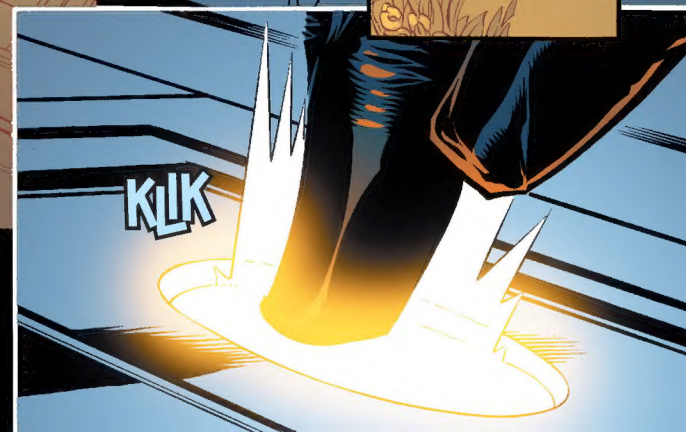
Last chance to g-guess... boy or guh-girl...?

I don't care, sweetheart. It truly doesn't matter.

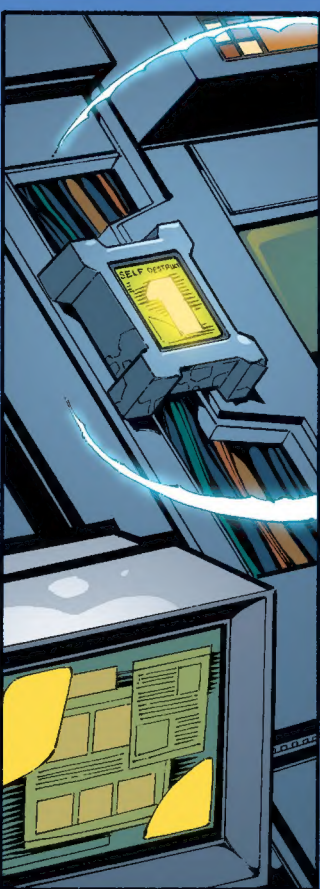
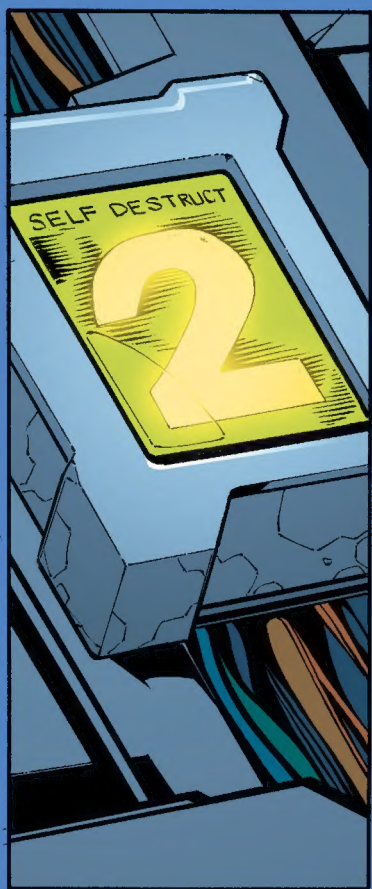
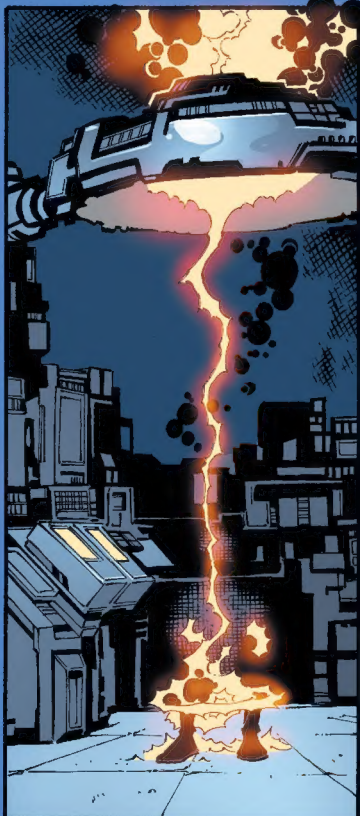


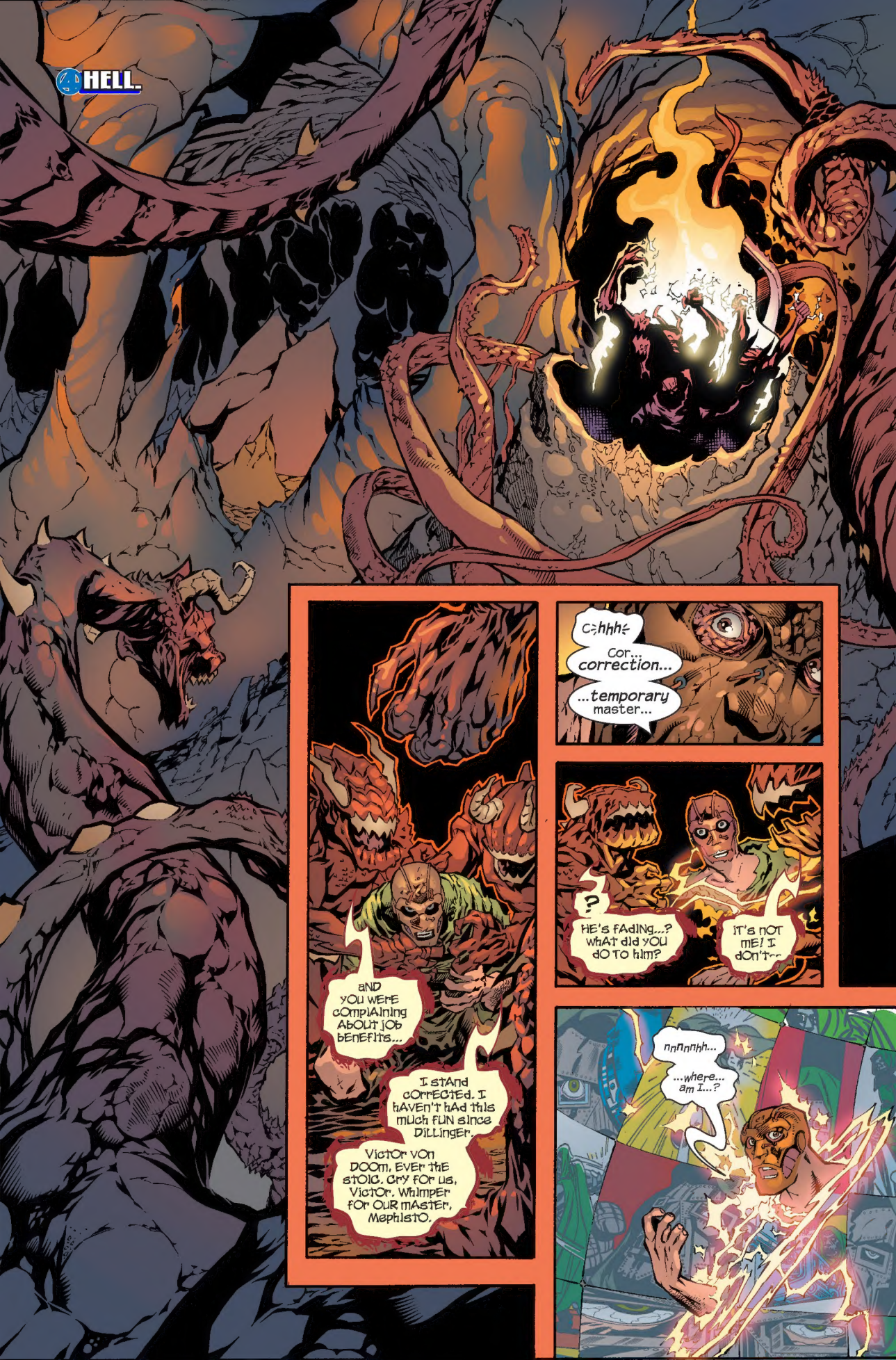
"All I care is that our children love us like we'll love *them*."

"All I care is that we have a good life."



KUK





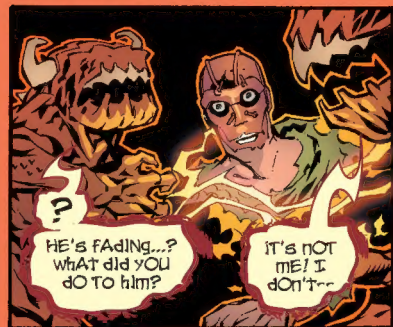
and  
you were  
complaining  
about job  
benefits...

I stand  
corrected. I  
haven't had this  
much fun since  
Dillinger.

Victor von  
Doom, ever the  
stoic, cry for us,  
Victor, whimper  
for our master,  
Mephisto.



C:hhh~  
Cor...  
correction...  
...temporary  
master...



?  
He's fading...?  
What did you  
do to him?

It's not  
me! I  
don't...



nnnnnnh...  
...where...  
am I...?



With me,  
Victor.

And I  
promise  
you:

you only  
thought  
you were in  
Hell.

Richards.  
Always  
Richards.

You've no  
idea how ironic  
that statement  
is. I brought you  
here for one  
reason only,  
Victor.

To keep  
you where  
I can see  
you.

It's a  
little Mobius  
dimension I  
invented a  
few years  
ago:  
Infinite--

--and, at  
the same time,  
very, very  
finite.

There's  
no way  
out.

For  
either  
of us.

Just  
another  
reason for  
me to hate  
you.

Time's up.



I warned you, Reed...

Awright, men! Let's get this show on the road!

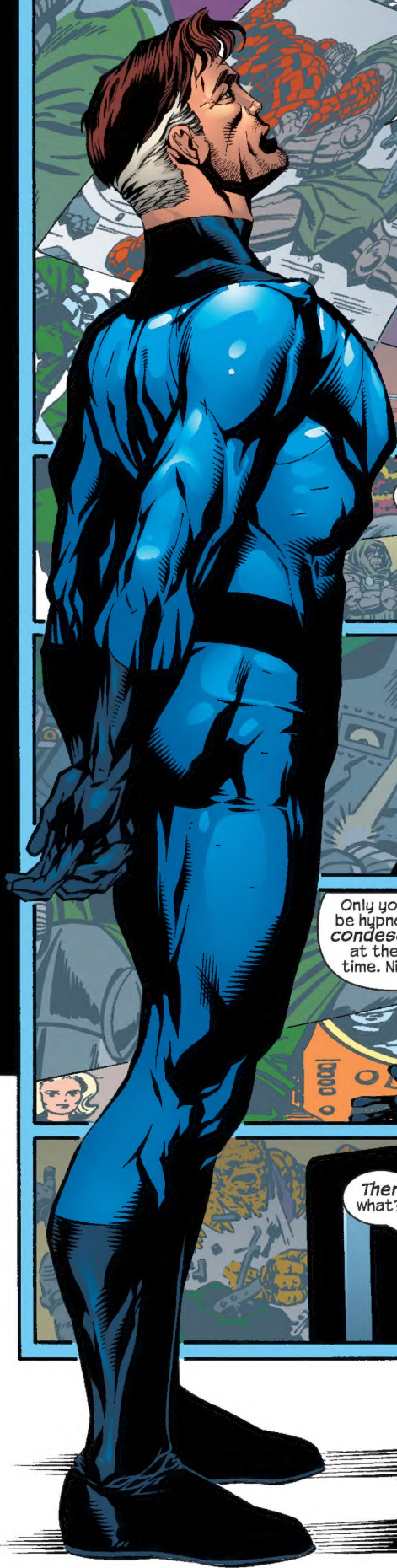


Remember, the Latverians are not to be touched! They are under our protection!



Our objective is the castle and the castle *only*! But when we hit it-- we hit it with *everything* we've got!





For years, you and I have been playing this pointless game, Victor.

You use those around me as pawns...and I'm sure you'd make the argument that I do the same. That in this way, you and I are alike.

Not really.

You consider them your equals.

Then again...*ŧčhč*... perhaps they are.

Only you could be hypnotic and condescending at the same time. Nice try.

Moving your mind into another body because yours is *broken*. One of your oldest gimmicks. You'd probably use it more often if you weren't so *vain*.

Please. I *invite* you. Project your consciousness into me. Take over. Be my *guest*.

Then what?







If I'd tried harder to make you listen to me, could I have saved the world from the path you took?

Probably not, but "probably" isn't much consolation when you set my wife's face on fire.

Tortured my children.

I can't take the blame for all you've done, Victor.

But someone has to take the responsibility.



What's so funny?

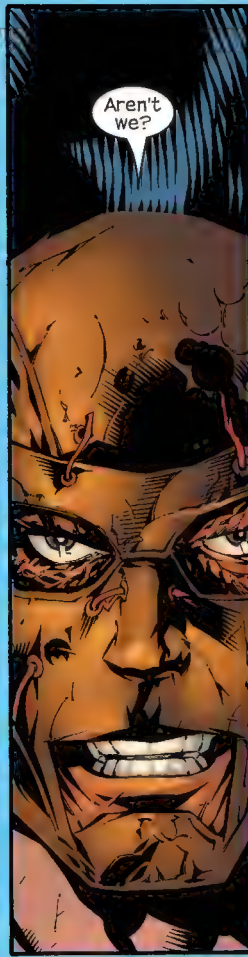
You. Your opprobrious assumptions. Any rational man evaluating what you've just *claimed* would have to see the *truth*:



This is *your* prison... and I am *your* jailer.



Then why aren't we revisiting *my* sins?



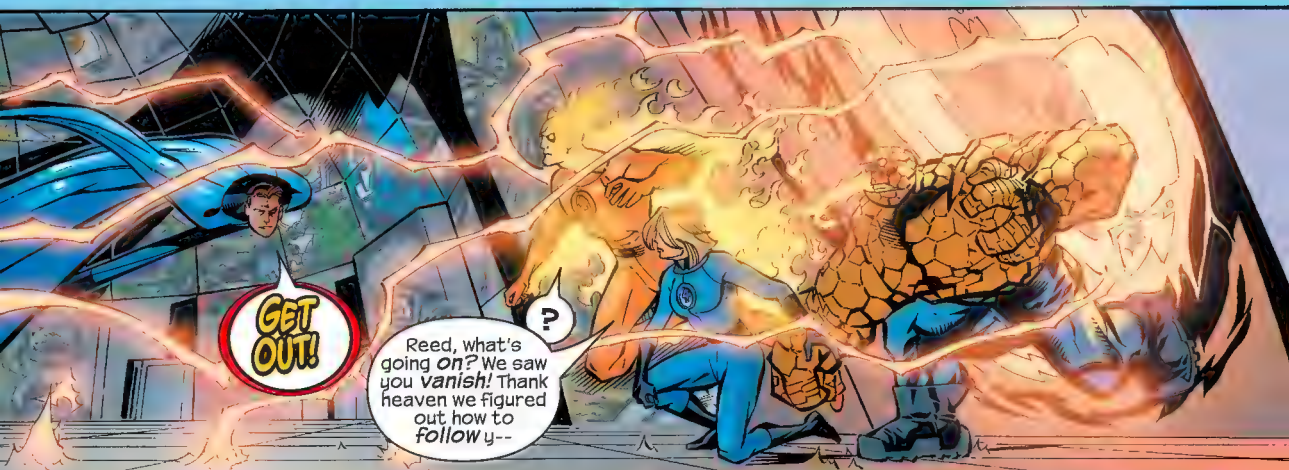
Aren't we?



It won't work, Victor. Play all the mindgames you *like*.

I couldn't release you if I *wanted* to.

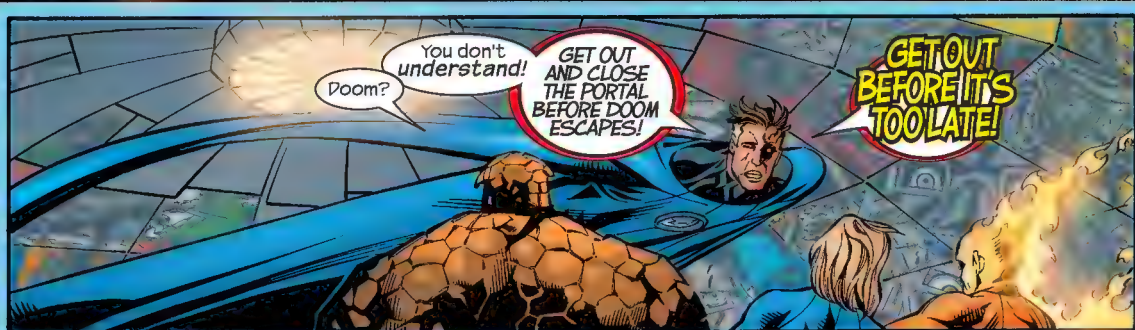




**GET OUT!**

Reed, what's going on? We saw you vanish! Thank heaven we figured out how to follow y--

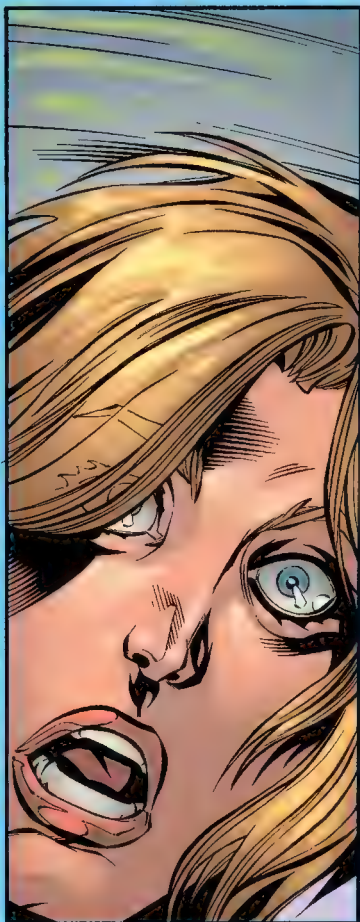
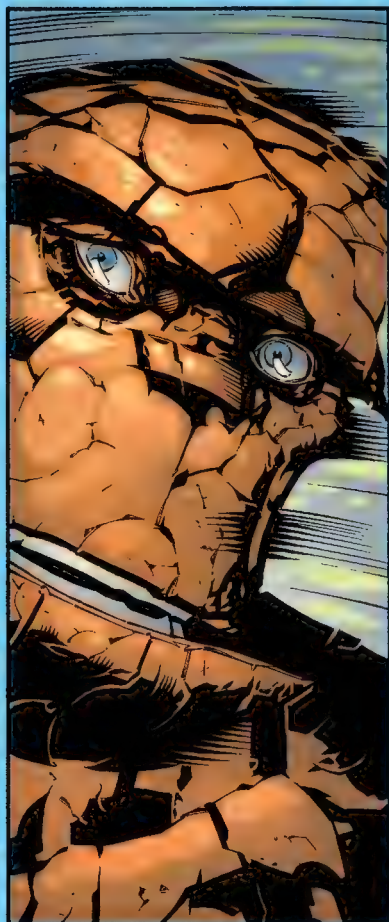
?



you don't understand!  
Doom?

**GET OUT AND CLOSE THE PORTAL BEFORE DOOM ESCAPES!**

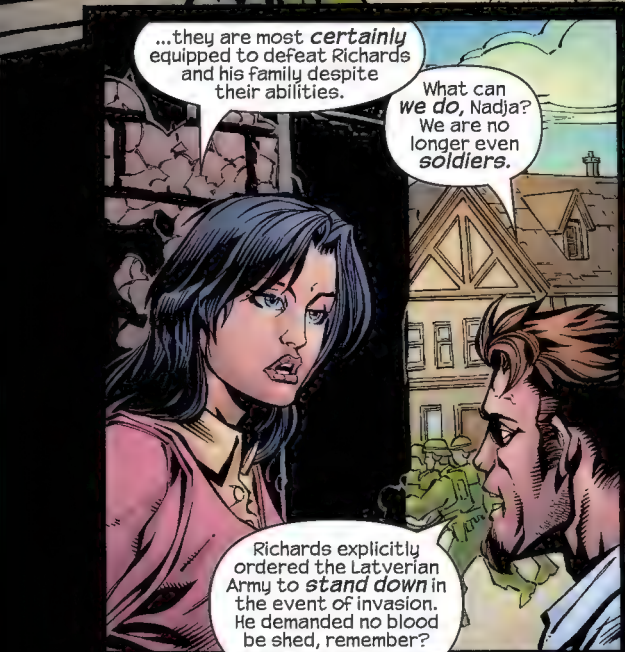
**GET OUT BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!**





The rumors are true.

Infantrymen from all over the world have breached our country's perimeter. And if they have made this much progress...



...they are most *certainly* equipped to defeat Richards and his family despite their abilities.

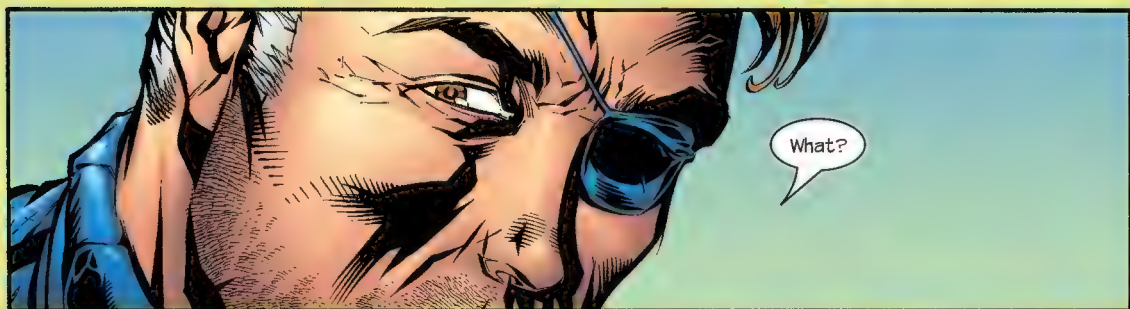
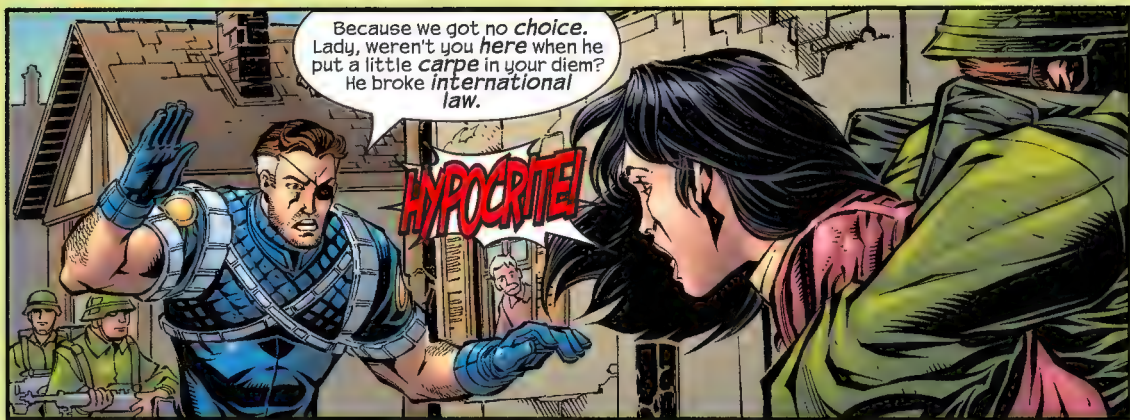
What can we do, Nadja? We are no longer even soldiers.

Richards explicitly ordered the Latverian Army to *stand down* in the event of invasion. He demanded no blood be shed, remember?



I do.

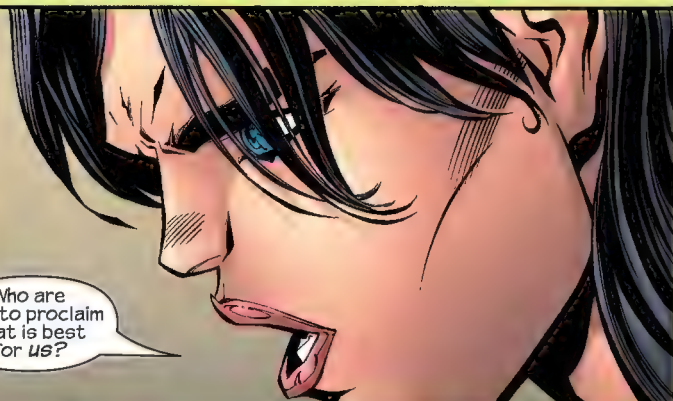
Nadja!  
Nadja, stop!



Stinking *hypocrite!*  
For how many *years* did Doom  
commit *worse* crimes every *day*?  
Yet you granted him *diplomatic*  
*immunity* even as he *brutalized*  
us--ruled us through *fear*  
and *cruelty!*

Now we  
at last have  
a sovereign who  
wishes to give us a  
*voice* in our own  
government--  
and *him*, you  
cart away!

Who are  
*you* to proclaim  
what is best  
for *us*?



Nadja's right!  
We *know* Richards  
will *fight* Doom if  
he returns!

Will  
you?

Richards has  
earned our *trust!*  
The U.N. has  
*not!*

*Tyranny*  
no longer has  
a *voice* in this  
land! Leave  
us *be!*

**LEAVE US BE!  
LEAVE US BE!  
LEAVE US BE!**

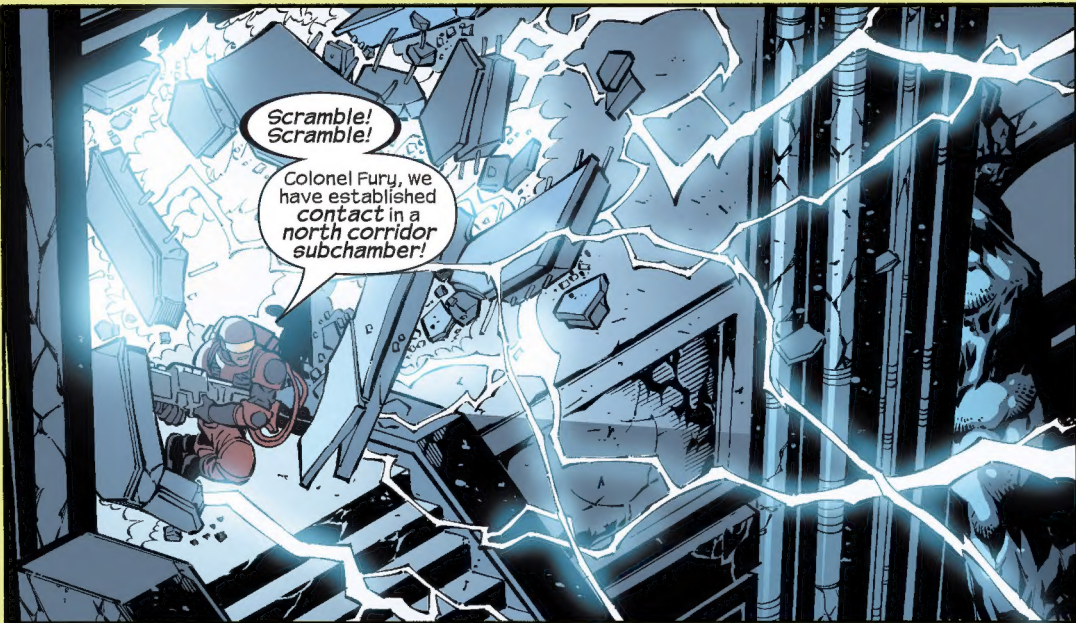
We don't  
have *time*  
for this...

Colonel Fury,  
sir! We have a  
communique from  
the Hungarian division!  
They're a quarter-  
click ahead!

They've  
reached the  
castle proper--



"--and they're on their way in!"



Scramble!  
Scramble!

Colonel Fury, we have established contact in a north corridor subchamber!



uooooooooohh...

Repeat:  
We have established contact!

Freeze!  
By the authority of the United Nations--



--you are under arrest for acts of international terrorism!

Oh... that's a relief...

...for a second, I thought we were in trouble...



Johnny, shut up!

Where did he escape to? Where's Doom?

Dr. Richards, I am ordering you to hold your position! We will fire on you!

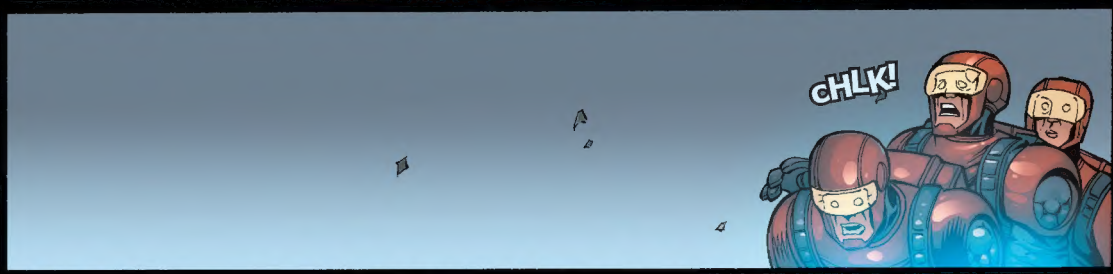
This is your only warning!



Stretcho, u' better do what th' kid sez!

**DOOM!**

On my mark! Ready-- aim--





**4 TO BE CONCLUDED.**